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MISCELLANEOUS.

—37—

Essay on Personal Liberty.

LORD JOHN RUSSELL.

Methinks I see in my mind a noble and puissant nation rousing herself like a strong man after sleep, and shaking her invincible locks; methinks I see her as an eagle during her mighty youth, and kindling her undazzled eyes at the full mid-day beam; purging and unsealing her long-abused sight at the fountain itself of heavenly radiance; while the whole noise of timorous and flocking birds, with those also that love the twilight, flutter about, amazed at what she means, and in their envious gabble would prognosticate a year of sects and schisms.

MILTON.

Next to civil liberty, in the order I have laid down, comes personal liberty. By personal liberty, I mean the freedom from restraint upon actions which are not criminal in themselves. The chief liberties of this class are the freedom of speaking and writing, and freedom of conscience in matters of religion. The absence of all exclusive personal privileges, such as signorial rights, exemption from taxes, monopoly of civil and military offices, must be reckoned also in this class; for that which is privilege to one man is a restraint upon another.

The liberty of speaking and writing was allowed in ancient times, not only in free states, but wherever despotism fell into the hands of a mild sovereign; and so palling to the ear is the continual monotony of praise, that in the absolute kingdom of Persia, where the sovereign is thought to be the very image of the Divinity, a jester was always kept, whose business it was to tell the truth, and yet to tell it in such a way that the King might, if he pleased, laugh at the fable, and neglect the moral. The fool of modern kings is a creature invented for the same purpose. Such were the devices which sovereigns adopted for the sake of hearing a little free observation, at a time when nations were divided into the court and the country. The court never spoke of the king's actions but to praise them, and the country never spoke of them at all. Such was still the state of Europe when Machiavel wrote *The Prince*, and he takes it for granted, in that much debated work, that the mass of the people can be kept wholly ignorant of the real character of their sovereign. The progress of knowledge has overturned the basis of his whole system, and were Machiavel to write at this day, he would probably recommend to kings a totally different line of conduct.

The policy pursued by the governments of Europe, in later times, has been extremely various. Austria and Spain have assumed as a principle that, as general freedom of discussion must produce much calumny on private persons, much seditious writing against the state, and much matter offensive to morality and religion, it is prudent to the country, and humane to the writers, to place the press under the guardianship of censors appointed by the government. By this method, it is asserted, all fair and temperate discussion may be allowed; libels are stifled in the egg, before they have worked mischief; and public justice is spared the necessity of inflicting severe punishment. The government of France, without sanctioning so strict a system of ignorance as that of Spain, refused to allow publication without restraint. But the mitigated prohibitions of the French censors, in some degree contributed to spread the false notions which obtained vogue at the beginning of their revolution. Every thing might be attacked by an equivocal jest, although nothing could be combated by direct reasoning; and the able writers of the last century soon found that the best institutions were as open to a

sneer as the grossest abuses. General declamation, and affected sentiment were allowed, till the opinions of men fell into general confusion. At length the throne was shaken, the altar sapped, and the mine ready to burst under their foundations, before any one had had a fair opportunity of urging an argument in their behalf. The policy of England has been, since the Revolution, completely the reverse both of the Spanish and the French. During the reign of Elizabeth, as we have seen, the most severe punishments were awarded to libellers. During the reign of James, and the early part of Charles I. a censorship was established by means of a licence act. Cromwell adopted the same policy, which was continued by Charles and James. The licence act of the latter expired in 1694, and has never been renewed. The constitution of England thus deliberately, not in the heat of the revolution itself, but without clamour, without affectation, without fear, and at once, adopted a free press. The principle then sanctioned is, that, as speaking, and writing, and printing, are things of themselves indifferent, every person may do as he pleases, till by writing what is calumnious or seditious, he offends the laws. That a great advantage is afforded to personal liberty by the permission of a free press, is what no man can doubt. Reflection may convince us that this liberty is also beneficial to the community at large. Genius can never exert its powers to their full extent, when its flight is limited and its direction prescribed. Truth can never be got at, when all discussion is regulated by those who hold the reins of government, to whom the discovery of truth is not always acceptable. Neither is it true, as some people imagine, that no government can withstand the daily attacks of the press. Men know when they are prosperous, and although they learn to grumble at all that is going on, no quantity of rhetoric will persuade a nation that is in possession of liberty, to risk a civil war, in order to obtain a change in the form of government. A minister may generally so manage, as either to endure, or to overcome popular clamour. The slanderous whisper of the Emperor of Russia's courtiers is ten times more dangerous to a good minister than the angry habbub of the King of England's people.

Amongst other cavillings at the practice of our constitution, there has been raised a cry against the influence of lawyers. From the earliest times, however, that influence has been felt, and felt most beneficially for the country. Bracton who was a judge in the reign of Henry III., and much more Fortescue, who was chief justice in that of Henry VI., are among the earliest authorities in favour of the liberties of the country. In the beginning of the contest with the Stuarts, the names of Coke and Selden appear with auspicious lustre on the side of freedom. In the second contest with the Stuarts, amongst a host of lawyers, with the venerable Sergeant Maynard at their head, appears the virtuous, the temperate, the wise and venerated Somers. From him we pass to Lord Cowper, a Whig chancellor, who yet opposed the bill of pains and penalties against Atterbury, as an unnecessary violation of justice. The next in succession, as a friend to liberty, is Lord Camden, who, by his admirable judgments on the question of general warrants, and on libel, saved the country from the slavish doctrines with which it was threatened to be inundated.

In the House of Commons the members who have taken a chief part in the debates have generally been lawyers. This is the natural result of their habits of speaking, and we see them on one side of the House as well as on the other. On the side of

freedom we may reckon a series containing many bright names that began before Lord Coke, and has been continued after Dunning.

It were needless to come down any lower, were it not that I should be sorry to omit any opportunity of expressing my admiration for that great genius whose sword and buckler protected justice and freedom, during the disastrous period of the French Revolution. Defended by him, the government found, in the meanest individual whom they attacked, the tongue and the soul of Hampden, an invincible orator, and an undaunted patriot. May the recollection of those contests, and those triumphs, brighten the last days of this illustrious man, and kindle those who have embraced the same studies to seek for a similar inspiration!

Such instances might persuade us that the study of the law, by giving men a better knowledge of their rights, gives them a stronger desire to preserve them, and by affording them a nearer view of our constitution, enables them the better to appreciate and cherish its excellencies. Unfortunately, however, there are instances on the other side, of men who, attracted by the brilliant rewards in the profession of the law, which the Crown has to give, have made themselves the tools of tyranny and corruption. But this is by no means an exclusive attribute of lawyers. The mean Lord Strafford, who sold his country for an office and a peerage, was a country gentleman; and the false Lord Bolingbroke, who betrayed his benefactor, and endeavoured to restore a race of despots, which the nation had proscribed, was a wit and a man of fashion.

One of the conditions necessary for the maintenance of that species of freedom which excludes all arbitrary power, is, that the people should be ready to take part with the weak oppressed, against the powerful oppressor. Madame de Staël remarks of the French people of her own day, that they always perceive immediately where the power is, and always range themselves on that side. The truth of this observation may be demonstrated by referring to the events of the Revolution, or attending to what happens in any one year in France. The quality essential to freedom, however, is one directly the reverse. The people ought to feel a continual jealousy of power; and when they see any one man borne down unjustly, they ought to perceive immediately, that the cause of that man is the cause of the whole nation.

This is or was happily the case with the English people. Nothing but the sympathy of the people could have raised to such importance and celebrity the cause of Hampden, when he refused to pay a few shillings to the crown. The imprisonment of a Mr. Francis Jenkes, for making a patriotic speech in the Common Council of London, was the cause of the Habeas Corpus Act. Mr. Wilkes, though detested and despised by good men, as a hypocrite in public and a profligate in private life, was defended by all who loved their country, when arbitrary measures were resorted to for the purpose of oppressing him. He obtained at length large damages against the ministers who had abused their power, and put an end to general warrants for ever. So, I trust, it may always be, when any individual, however humble, however odious, or however despicable, is pursued by illegal, or unjust methods!—*Lord John Russell.*

Surreptitious Knighthood.—A remark lately appeared in the Gazette, made by command of his Majesty, upon two persons who have obtained the honour of knighthood surreptitiously. The first is a Mr. Aldis, who has written a book upon cancers. He went to Court with his cancer book in one hand, and a card in the other, on which was written, "Mr. Aldis, by the Marquis of Salisbury, for the honour of knighthood;" which he actually received. The other is a man called Daniels, known as the inventor of a Life-preserver. At present he has a medical board in Blackfriars-road, "with a back-door, and a lamp in the passage."

Lym.—There is now living in this town, a widow named Miller, at the advanced age of 107 years, in perfect health; she retains her faculties in every respect except her sight, but she is not blind: she walks about the town, and what makes it most remarkable, she has lived in the reigns of four King Georges, and can well remember the Coronation of George the First; she was born on the very day that Queen Anne died.

Irish Newspapers.—The manner in which the Irish newspapers are partially fed by Government, under the pretext of advertising, brought to notice (though it could not entirely bring to light) the introduction of a similar custom into England. This is perhaps not the only instance in which we are made to adopt and copy those counsels and that system of administration which has diffused so much happiness and satisfaction throughout the sister country. It is some time ago since the Government advertisements were withdrawn from this Journal. Our notice was first attracted to the fact, not by any loss that we felt, but by the inquiry of a correspondent, and the recel of an advertisement which had been already sent. We have thriven, however, and increased both in circulation and in advertisements since that period. But our success does not diminish the injustice of our enemies, not to us only, but so far as the thing is of moment to the public: for it is not their own money, but that of the country with which Ministers pay for advertising; which money they ought, therefore, if they were honest men, to dispense impartially and fairly, with a view to the only legal end of advertising, namely, publicity: whereas they let their own petty, contemptible, personal feelings interfere, to the detriment of the public object. Would that they did this in no more important concern than in withdrawing public advertisements from the Journal which is best able to make them known, and inserting them in others of less circulation. Could any one have conceived such dirty, low, pettifogging meanness in men who move in high stations?

However, this is not the worst, so far as relates to one of them personally: for when Mr. VANSITTART, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, was interrogated some weeks ago on the subject, he asserted that no order had been issued from the Treasury to prevent the insertion of the public advertisements in *The Times* journal. These were his words:—"every office under Government selected the paper in which it advertises: there was no order from the Treasury to exclude advertisements from any particular paper." Now we do maintain that the very contrary of what Mr. VANSITTART has here asserted is the fact: there were orders to exclude the Government advertisements from this paper! And accordingly the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER when asked on Thursday night, not by one or two members only, but by no fewer than four, (Mr. HUME, Mr. DENMAN, Mr. HOBHOUSE, and Lord MILTON,) whether he meant to persevere in his former statement, had not a word to say, and not a word did he say. The ancient critics have assigned it to "a certain greatness of mind," when a person falsely accused scorns to make a reply or defence. When a person, therefore, truly accused declines acknowledging an error, we suppose we may attribute that conduct to "a certain littleness of mind." However, in the way of littleness, nothing, we apprehend, can be much less than the act itself which gave rise to inquiry.—*Times.*

Assessments.—The following judicious remarks appear in a recent letter by the Rev. Dr. BURNS of Paisley.—It will be asked, have not assessments from their very nature a tendency to increase rapidly in extent? I once thought so; but from more full and enlarged investigation, I begin to see, that here, as in other matters, the best and most important part of the law is the execution of it. In our large manufacturing communities indeed there are many circumstances connected with the changes in trade as well as in the general aspect of the times, which must influence powerfully the progress of pauperism; and yet as proofs of what may be done by judicious and economical management, let the following facts among others be generally known and duly estimated. In the city of Glasgow, with a population of 58,334, the assessment in 1812, was 10,332*l.* 6*s.* 10*d.*; while in 1819, with a population of 73,796, the amount is only 11,664*l.* 16*s.* 4½*d.* In the Abbey Parish of Paisley, which in 1812, had a population of upwards of 17,000, the assessment was 1724*l.* 15*s.* 5*d.*, while in 1819, with a population of 30,000, it stands only 1560*l.* 15*s.* 10*d.* In the three parishes of the town of Paisley, the population of 1811, was 19,937, and the gross amount of parochial provision for the poor was 2827*l.* 10*s.* 7*d.*; while in 1819 with a population of 24,849 the expenditure stands 2956*l.* 3*s.* 5½*d.* Thus the expenditure has been greatly reduced, while the population has increased; and the poor of 1819 cost less in proportion than the poor of 1812.—*Star.*

Hogg's Mountain Bard.

The Mountain Bard. By James Hogg, the Ettrick Shepherd; with a Memoir of the Author's Life, written by himself, 1821.—A Letter to a Friend in London, containing Observations on the Memoir of Himself, written by James Hogg. By George Goldie, 23d May, 1821.

(The whole of this article may be read with profit in every quarter of the globe; and the closing lines deserve particularly to be weighed and considered by the treacherous Terrorists of the East.)

It is with much reluctance, and not without pain, that we proceed to notice the Memoir and Letter placed at the head of this article. But as we have been charged already, on account of our silence, with yielding to the fear of abuse, and compromising the interests both of letters and morals, we feel that, in making the remarks which follow, we are doing neither more nor less than discharging an indispensable duty. We felt kindly towards Mr. Hogg. The proofs of that feeling are to be found in our earlier columns. We early recognised his talents; and were proud that the sheep walks of Ettrick could generate so much enthusiasm. Where imagination was so active, and where there was such a range and felicity of poetical expression, we fondly wished that the Shepherd might display a genius as high as the Ploughman, and enjoy a better fortune. We were the more sanguine in our expectations, because the Ettrick Shepherd was understood to be more the child of imagination than passion; and because most of those who had seen him spoke favourably of his temper and manners. Apparently there was no coarseness about him unbecoming in a shepherd; his conceit was not offensive; and as his rusticity was at once simple, arch, and picturesque, very few saw him for an hour or two in a social company who did not wish to see him again. There was a disposition to be attached to him personally; and a more general one to overlook faults, either of style or thought, which should appear incidental to his original condition. So far, indeed, were the defects which arose from that cause from operating detractively, that to us at least, they rather seemed to add a lustre to his name. We thought nothing of his *etourderie*, or even folly, in attempting occasionally to be a man of the world; and while it was possible to ascribe the errors of his conduct to the society which he kept, we thought him entitled to indulgence. Mr Hogg had our pity; the men who seduced and played upon him had our indignation. We suspected him shrewdly of giving information which was turned to the worst account; and his talents were avowedly employed in furnishing articles for a work conducted on the most base and atrocious principles. But somewhat of his conduct in these respects we imputed to mistaken friendship, and still more to the seductions of flattery. We had no doubt that, while ridiculed in public, large sacrifices were made to his vanity in private; and that while his pockets were not left empty, he was led to suppose that derisive notoriety was fame. We made great allowances for the corrupting effects of the company kept by him. For on each side of the Shepherd's Kalender we saw productions which held up life in the most false and deceptive colours. There principle was called methodism; good sense, dulness; and good faith, ignorance of the world. Shame was laid aside, falsehood was practised habitually, and calumny, in all its phases, and with all its aggravations, was converted into a trade. A disregard in short, of all the decencies of life, and of all the implied obligations of social and friendly intercourse, seemed to be gloried in, and loss of character—as character had for ages been estimated—relied on as the means of obtaining patronage and place. We make every allowance for the influence of such associations and such examples still; but after supposing an extreme facility on the one side, and a great extent of pernicious influence on the other, we cannot, by any means, reach exculpation. We can easily conceive how a set of jovial fellows may, while sitting over the bottle, talk as if life were a farce, and indulge their fancies at the expense both of friends and foes; but, although they might even write under such an influence, it could hardly continue till after the revival of the proofs; nor is it possible to imagine, that a system of cruel abuse and wilful detraction could be persevered in, either in a state of intoxication or hallucination. In such a case, the moral sense must either have never existed, or been effectually destroyed. Supposing it possible, that in the single case of the Chaldee Manuscript, Mr. Hogg should be so blinded as to look with complacency on what he contributed himself, and consider "the devilry" (as he phrases it) introduced by others as a sort of *Angler's sport*, his eyes could not remain shut to the repeated cruelties, slanders, and calumnies of his colleagues. But, tasking our nature so far as to hold it possible that the Shepherd might not see any thing unpardonable in offences committed anonymously, or under the fictitious name of Morris, or North and Company, the case was mightily altered when he came, *in propria persona*, to write a memoir of his own life. But there we find the worst of sins committed in the most insensate manner. A friend who has always been enthusiastic in his praise, and who would at any time have divided with him the only meal he could command in the world, is held up to general ridicule, gratuitously, and without aim or object,

unless it be to shew, that James Hogg, the Ettrick Shepherd, could tell a ludicrous story. We might say, generally, that nothing which looks so well in rehearsal can be literally true; but if one-half of what Mr. Goldie asserts—on specific references to facts and circumstances—to persons of respectability, and who had been the mutual friends of the parties,—be correct, the whole superstructure, and probably the ground work also, must be held as a fabrication. What then is to be thought of him who can thus tax his inventive faculty to the utmost, to the prejudice and annoyance of his best friends? But in such a case at this, truth itself would be a wicked and treacherous libel. The whole intercourse of private and domestic life is held under an implied obligation—felt by all who are worthy of its blessings—that it is sacred—that it cannot be touched without a breach of faith, fatal to the character of him who makes it, as it is to the repose and comfort of him at whose expense it is made. To the observance of this obligation, social intercourse owes all its charms; and, we might add, nearly all its value. How much are friends endeared to us by the conviction that we may freely expose our peculiarities, our weaknesses, and even our faults, to their observation: How much more are we liked ourselves by displaying this confidence? But how contradictory and absurd would the best appear if every stray expression were treasured up—every wayward or inconsiderate movement noted—for the purpose of afterwards seasoning a jest, pointing a story, or selling a volume! Such violations of the privacies and sanctities of life are even worse than the violations of truth, of which Mr. Hogg is accused by Mr. Goldie, not even excepting the slandering of one supposed dead, to excite a sympathy with the pocket. Mr. Goldie, who writes like a gentleman, has stated what is sufficient to make all easy who have suffered by adorned anecdotes in Mr. Hogg's memoir. The recoil has been much more injurious to the shooter, than the shot has been to those against whom it was directed. And we feel, that merely to mention their names, though for defence or justification, would be an injury. There are slanders of a kind which would be aggravated by the publication of an apology for them; because the injury may consist in being dragged before the public ludicrously, or with opprobrious epithets coupled to one's name, which the apology made only serves to keep floating. There are injuries—such as allusions to personal defects or peculiarities of manner—the fixing of nick-names, or the recording of even harmless absurdities—which are deepened by the very act of seeking redress, and for which no proper reparation can be given. Like wounds made with poisoned weapons, they are of the worst kind; and those who habitually commit them must be the worst of characters. It was to enter our protest against these immoral and disreputable practices, and to shew that we could discharge this duty to the public at some risk to ourselves, that we have written the present article—not to injure Mr. Hogg, against whom, instead of promulgating anecdotes of private conduct got from others, we have not even extract those which he has given himself. If he would reflect on how Burns would have spurned the idea of being a cat's-paw to others in any dirty work—how his noble spirit would have revolted at the bare imagination of betraying confidence, or violating any of the implied obligations of general intercourse, he would destroy his manuscript of contraband anecdotes or private slander, and express the deepest regret for past errors. We shall be foremost in hailing any symptoms of a returning moral health; but if none appear, we are equally prepared to meet the consequences of a perseverance in the same course. We neither think lightly of abuse, nor desire to provoke it; but if heaped upon us undeservedly, and for exposing literary vices and crimes, we are able to despise it. Systematic detraction will injure any man for a time; but it by and by awakens a sympathy in favour of him who is assailed, and compensates, by warm friendships, what is lost by malignant enmity. It is impossible, however to expose the unconstitutional interferences or threats of one country gentleman, unduly to influence or constrain his poorer neighbours, or the unfounded representations of another, to carry a private job for himself, at the expense and to the great annoyance of the public, without being *personal*; but of such personalities they have no right to complain, nor would we complain though it were applied to ourselves. Public conduct, and published writings are public property; and the more closely the one is investigated, and the other discussed, the better. What we deprecate is treachery, abuse, and malignity in private life, or in reference to personal appearance or private conduct and character. And thus far, all parties are equally interested in joining us; for all have placed confidence somewhere, and all have need of indulgence. We dislike cant of all sorts—moral, religious or political; but in vindicating the feelings of gentlemen, or contending for the observance of those decencies of life, without which society could not hang together, there is nothing weakly methodistical. All this may be done while political opponents and even personal enemies take their respective grounds openly and with decision. We are no advocates for a hollow peace; but if hostilities be unavoidable, let them be fairly conducted. Let us have no poisoned weapons; no concealed assassinations; no treachery; no fighting under false names or false colours.—*Scotsman*, June 23, 1821.

Varieties.

Epitaph on Frederick, Prince of Wales, son of George II. and father of our late King George III. from "Hogg's Jacobite Relics."

Here lies Prince Fede,
Gone down among the dead;
Had it been his father,
We had much rather;
Had it been his mother,
Better than any other;
Had it been his sister,
Few would have miss'd her;
Had it been the whole generation,
Ten times better for the nation;
But, since 'tis only Fede,
There's no more to be said.

Impromptu, founded on Fact.

A stout Irish porter, with legs somewhat bandy,
Was one day thus quizz'd by a spindle-shank'd dandy:
"Pon honour, thy legs would be well shap'd, indeed,
"If set t'other end up, and not so knock-kneed."
"Knock-kneed?" replied Pat, and the joke thus rebutted:
"Faith, you'll find by this kick, that I am only KNOCK-FOOTED."

Substitute for the Riot Act.

In the last *Kaleidoscope* was inserted a singular attack, recently made upon some travellers on the Continent, by myriads of bees, which, besides most materially injuring several individuals, actually stung two horses to death. The circumstance brought to our recollection the following communication, received from a correspondent some weeks ago, and postponed, in common with many others, in consequence of the late Parliamentary Inquisition. Our ministers are skilled in such a variety of modes of tormenting poor John Bull, that we perhaps ought to apologise for suggesting another way of annoying him. We could not resist the temptation, however, of laying before our readers so ingenious a device for dispersing large assemblies; and have only to regret, that the scheme was not known to the Manchester magistrates on or before the memorable 16th of August; as the mode here suggested for putting the Radicals to flight would certainly have been less objectionable than cutting them down without the ceremony of the riot act. It is certain, too, that the Radicals themselves would prefer the stings of the bees to the sabres of the drons.

To the Editors of the *Mercury*.—In reading the "Introduction to Entomology," by Kirby and Spence, one of the most amusing publications which has issued from the press, I met with following passage. I have transcribed it, with the hope that (through the medium of your Journal, which, being distinguished among those that advocate reform, is I doubt not, well sifted by ministers, or their agents) it may prove serviceable to my Lord Sidmouth and his colleagues, to whom the country owes so much, as the friends of social order:

"Many means have been had recourse to for the dispersion of mobs, and the allaying of popular tumults. At St. Petersburg (so travellers say) a fire-engine playing upon them does not always cool their choler; but were a few *kings of bees* thus employed, their discomfiture would be certain. The experiment has been tried. It is said, that in 1525, during the confusion occasioned by a time of war, a mob of peasants assembling in Honstein, (in Thuringia) attempted to pilfer the house of the minister of Elende; who, having in vain employed all his eloquence to dissuade them from their design, ordered his domestics to fetch his bee-hives, and to throw them in the middle, of this furious mob. The result was what might be expected; they were immediately put to flight and happy if they escaped unscathed."—Vol. 2, p. 294; 2d edition.

I cannot, for a moment, doubt the efficacy of such a remedy, after knowing that the Halifax meeting on the 4th October, 1819, at which a radical army of 50,000 men was assembled, dispersed very quietly "in consequence of heavy rain which fell most fortunately, and drove them home."

I hope that government will be induced to take this matter into consideration: and that it may occasion a repeal of those laws lately enacted, which many wise men judge to infringe too much on the liberties of Englishmen: substituting an act for the "the encouragement of the breeding of bees, with a view of employing them in the public service." Other hints, as to the probability of standing armies being superseded by these "flying troops;" the consequent diminution of taxes; and the increase of a wholesome article of food, now accounted a luxury, I withhold, until I learn how this takes, in which case, further communications may be made by me.

Liverpool Mercury.

APIARIAN.

New Patents.

J. Sinclair, of Edinburgh, for an Improvement in the Manufacture of Shawls, Plaids, Scarfs, Handkerchiefs, Gown-Pieces, and other Articles into which coloured Threads are wrought into Flowers, and other fancy Figures, in the Process of Weaving.

The object of the invention, and the manner of using it, are as follows:—The mode of weaving hitherto used in the manufacture of shawls, plaids, scarfs, handkerchiefs, gown-pieces, and other similar articles into which threads of different colours are wrought into flowers, and other fancy figures, in the process of weaving, has been with a tweel on the surface or right side. The effect of the tweel, thus employed on the surface, is to break the minute points and veins of the pattern, and, by bringing up the warp and other ground-threads, which are necessarily of a uniform colour, and placing them in diagonal or oblique lines across the spotting-threads of the surface, to injure the purity of the colours, and impoverish the pattern designed to be formed by them. By employing a different texture, the points and veins of the pattern are formed with the minutest accuracy, and leave the spotting-threads of the surface much more pure, and unmixed with the warp or other ground-threads; no more of these warp or ground-threads being allowed to come to the surface than are necessary to bind the spotting-threads into the cloth, and those which are thus necessarily brought to the surface being so disposed as to be scarcely perceptible to the naked eye. The essential particular of the new texture is the setting aside, or appropriating, a certain portion of warp, for the purpose of coming between the spotting-threads of the surface, and what are commonly called the ground, weft, or wool-threads. A portion of the warp thus employed, effectually keeps these out of the surface of the cloth, where they cannot appear without material detriment to the purity and boldness of the colouring. It gives a pliability and softness to the cloth, and it appears to produce a more equal and regular surface, by affording a smooth and equal bed for the spotting threads. This operation is of course effected by a machinery which will attain the objects before described, and which appears to be very accurately adapted to the purpose of the inventor.

T. Dobbs, of Birmingham; for a new mode of uniting together or planting Tin upon Lead.

The object of this patent is principally effected by first laying a very thin coating of tin, or in other words, simply tinning the lead by rubbing on it melted tin, with hnds, rags, or tow, impregnated with turpentine or some resinous material, and then applying the tin in a thicker coat over the previous thin tinning with a ladle in a mould. The two metals will then be found to adhere together and form the planting required.

Fine Arts.

The Rabbit on the Wall.—Burnet after Wilkie.—On the return of one of our friends recently from town, we have been favoured with an inspection of the etching, and of a more advanced impression of the plate in course of being engraved by our countryman Burnet, after Wilkie's charming picture of "The Rabbit on the Wall."

The subject of this work, (as may be said of Wilkie's pencil in general,) is extremely well adapted for a furniture print, and in point of size is nearly the same as the well known upright prints by Woollet after Du Sart. It exhibits the interior of a cottage by candle light, with a man seated by his wife, and four delighted children; and this forms the most interesting passage. The man, by placing his fingers in a particular position, produces, by their shadow, the "rabbit on the wall." But the picture has been already fully described in the journals. That which we are desirous of at present, is to direct the attention of the Connoisseur to the print.

The sweet manner in which the lines are laid, — its attractive silver effect, — and the accurate representation of the various utensils of household furniture, so successfully transferred to the copper, — from the jack, plate-rack, and brace of ducks hanging against the wall, to the family of different ages and sexes amusing themselves so happily in the foreground, all contribute to its excellence.

This print, in so far as it is finished, differs greatly from the works of either Hoath, Sharp, or Raimback, and indeed from the *burine* of any other of the most distinguished English engravers. Mr. Burnet's former works are well known; but he has recently produced a style peculiar to, and worthy of himself; and in this instance has even excelled his painter-like prints of Bathsheba after Rembrandt, or The Letter-Writer after Metzu — both so deservedly admired. The cutting of his last work is as free in the lines as any etching, and is besides rich in colour. Should Mr. Burnet terminate his present labours as successfully as he has hitherto proceeded, we opine, that there are few specimens of engraving extant, which will more conduce to please the million, or to satisfy the prying eyes of the most recondite Connoisseur. — Scotsman.

ASIATIC DEPARTMENT.

—41—

LETTER VIII.

Judicial System of India.

To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.

SIR,

The important question as to the expediency of throwing open the principal Company's Courts in India to the intelligence and talent of a European Bar, will be discussed with greater advantage after some remarks which it is proposed to make in this place on the Supreme Court and establishments more immediately connected with that noble Institution, which, with all its defects, and they are neither few nor slight, is deservedly looked up to with pride by Englishmen, as the only fragment of their glorious constitution left to them in a foreign land, and the germ from which in the fulness of time they expect that the most solid security to personal liberty and property throughout India will spring.

It is, indeed refreshing, after a long absence in the Mofussil, to contrast the carelessness in procedure, levity in deportment, alternate contumacious vociferation and prostrate obsequiousness of clients and pleaders, silencing and summary punishment of the overzealous, and general appearance of irregularity and confusion, that prevail in many of the Country Tribunals,—with the somewhat formal and old fashioned gravity, the patient attention, the dignity and decorum of the Bench, which scarcely forsake these learned persons, even when the well placed and properly timed jest of a facetious counsel or retorting witness, forces from their steady muscles the reluctant smile. The days are happily long gone by when Mofussil Judges and Magistrates did not disdain to sit in Cutchery attired in the costume of the chase, and solacing themselves amid the toils of their keen-witted Aumlah, with the fumes of "Mandongus Nithy herb." In these minor particulars, a "radical reform" has taken place, as we are told, within the last thirty years, contemporary with a more important reformation in essential points, a reformation in a great degree attributable, perhaps, to that knowledge which Lord Wellesley's College has so generally diffused; though there were some before that time who had laid the foundations of that eminence and reputation which may be seen at this day in the few who survive to grace the "high places" in our seats of Justice. The absence of certain formalities of procedure and external appearance in a Judge, does not certainly imply scantiness of learning, or lack of those attributes which his office implies: this is sufficiently proved, perhaps, by the example of America, and we should find it difficult to deny that it is the force of early habit and prejudice, which, notwithstanding the Edinburgh Reviewer's witty sneers at sundry favorite folds of cloth and configurations of wool, leads us to cling to certain notions of Judicial Costume. Place the same Individuals in common attire on an elevated platform surrounded by crowds who attend to every word that they utter, and are ready to admire or criticize; let them be vigilantly watched by an indefatigable Bar, keenly interested in opposite views of every question; let them feel that in theory the whole population to whom they administer Justice is supposed to be in court, and that every sentence delivered, is instantly recorded by diligent observers on the spot, who communicate all that passes, with appropriate comments, to the world, through the powerful and rapid medium of the Public Press:—place any men in this responsible position with respect to their fellows, and the result will generally be the same substantial Justice, whatever the garb of her ministers. Yet there is something in the "ermined robe" itself, beyond its fitness for the uses of the poet and rhetorician:—it places the Individuals more *en spectacle*, and segregates and removes them for the time more effectually from the mass of the community:—in this view the practice is more useful in a small society like that of Calcutta, than among the crowds of all ranks and classes that swarm in London. It is the custom of Judges there, to lead a life of great retirement, and to abstain almost entirely from mixing in elevated society, or taking any part in public topics of discussion. It is not thought decorous that they should do so, and a Judge is looked on with evil eye who consorts with the great or ever appears at Court except to pay his obeisance

to the Sovereign on his first appointment to the Bench. These pure and truly English feelings subsist with diminished force in the remoter seats of British Justice; where the society is comparatively small, and the absence of a resident aristocracy of birth, gives the aristocracy of the *Robe* a more prominent station than it is desirable for it to hold. Thus we have seen Scotch and Irish Judges mixing in the political heats and party violences of the day with all the fury of *lay* partisans, and naturally unable to refrain from exhibiting scandalous and indecent partialities even on the Bench itself. In those provincial capitals, it may be said that a Judge's official dress, or any thing else which contributes to remind him of his sacred function, is more necessary to his dignity and the security of the subject, than in London: and in India, by parity of reasoning, we may pronounce the costume of our Judges more needful than in Edinburgh or Dublin; for the society here is infinitely smaller and less various; and the whole aristocracy of the place consists in their own body and an equal number of members of Government; so that a Judge must be something more than human who keeps himself quite clear of all interest in the squabbles of BIG-END-ANS and LITTLE-END-ANS in this our LILLIPUT, and so escapes the powerful tho' secret bias of party influence.

It follows from all this grave reasoning on gowns and wigs, that these are not so devoid of substantial use among us, as many of the Company's judicial servants incline to believe. Fortunately, however the Supreme Court has more solid and substantive claims to general respect and regard, than such as depend on external appearances, either in its Judges or Barristers. It is to these last, it is to the integrity, the talents, the learning, the eloquence, and above all the Independence of the Bar, that we must ascribe the general reverence shewn to this high Tribunal, and the satisfaction with which all classes and complexions and ranks of men in British India resort to its hall in quest of substantial Justice, and in preference to any other Judgment-Seat in the land. If any one be sceptical as to this general preference, he may easily satisfy himself of the truth of a remarkable fact which places the matter quite beyond doubt. The great majority of written engagements between Europeans, (or "East Indians,") and Natives out of the Court's Jurisdiction, as well as many of those Instruments among Natives only, are drawn up with an express clause covenanting that the parties shall decide their dispute in the Supreme Court and that there shall be no demur set up to the Jurisdiction. This practice is gaining ground daily, and it is quite futile to ascribe it to European prejudice or the influence of Attornies. Men of business, whether black or white, in all countries, look steadily to their own interest, and to that alone; they will infallibly resort to that Tribunal where the commodity of Justice is to be had of the best quality. In the Supreme Court, every one knows, and feels, that the wealth of Croesus cannot purchase the vote of a Judge, and that every suitor is perfectly secure of being fully heard through his Counsel, who are not to be put down or intimidated. When a written Code of Laws shall supersede the Native Assessors in the Company's Courts, and the European Judges only become responsible for their decrees, a degree of confidence and security to suitors will be established, which must greatly change the face of things:—for we have melancholy proofs on record, that Native Judges of the highest station are not incorruptible.—One such conviction as that which lately took place in the Poornea case, speaks volumes, (for no one knows where abuses may stop,) and must have gladdened the desponding hearts of not a few of "The Forty," as they have been facetiously called. The Supreme Court is, on the whole, a more expensive Tribunal, and in a "well managed" Equity suit at least, more tedious and equally open to the machinations of litigiousness. Yet these evils are more than outweighed by confidence in its impartiality in dispute between man and man, and the certainty that every suitor's own story may be told for him in his own way. It is not the least curious part of the remarkable fact which has been mentioned, that the powers and jurisdiction of this Tribunal, which were injudiciously forced into too great extension on its first establishment, and materially curtailed ten years afterwards, should now again be in progress of

restoration to nearly what they were 50 years ago; and that by the *voluntary* act of the People! In this, however, the whole secret of the change of opinion will be found to lie: men naturally resisted the arbitrary intrusion of a new, unknown and violent authority, and the insolent pedantry of the first Judges confirmed the dislike: a considerable reaction ensued, and the Court did not gain general confidence till the silent operation of time, and the absence of compulsion, shewed its true character and just title to popular favour.

It is high time that some legislative extension of means, and of (voluntary) jurisdiction should be applied to this admirable branch of our Judicial Establishment, that its benefits may be more accessible to all who prefer seeking them; and that those benefits may not be lost for want of means at the Court's disposal to overtake the business before it. Many indications may be observed that things are ripe for some such improvement. The pressure of business already weighs so heavily on the Court, that the distinction between Term and Vacation has become little better than nominal:—the paper is not gone through, very frequently till the sittings after one term are on the very verge of contact with that which is to succeed, owing to the very honorable endeavours of the Judges to clear the file, and prevent accumulation of arrears, to which there would be no prospect of a termination if once they began to be heavy. This is a manifest and crying evil; if not remedied, the patience and forbearance even of the excellent persons chiefly affected by this undue protraction of severe bodily and mental fatigue, must in time be exhausted. Even vacation time is no period of idleness or undue relaxation to these Judges; for one is unavoidably in daily attendance in chambers, to carry on current business and details; yet they are generally men of a certain age, which requires fair and reasonable intervals of leisure to preserve that vigour and elasticity which is so essential to the due performance of duty such as theirs.

For the Gentlemen of the Bar, our sympathy needs not be quite so active, although they too must suffer from being over worked, and what is of more consequence to the Public, their clients must be more or less losers in proportion as their advocates are less "in condition," for the incessant race they have to run. But it is astonishing to see how much men will go through, when each separate exertion is rewarded with its immediate and direct recompence. Doubtless these learned brethren will be the last to complain seriously of overfatigue from this species of task work, and will not be too hasty in admitting the expediency of any forensic division of labour, or similar loose theories: they will naturally maintain that mind has the same properties of infinite divisibility with matter, and that the application of a sufficient stimulus enables two to do the ordinary work of four with equal efficiency, or half a dozen individuals to carry through the entire business—legal, equitable, ecclesiastical, and criminal, of Bengal.

Sooner or later, however, there must be an end to this overdoing of the thing: Judges are but mortal men, and cannot toil incessantly without respite: nay even the Herculean powers of "leading Counsel" must give away, and professional monopoly relax its gripe before the increasing business, afforded not only by the augmenting partialities of persons beyond the Jurisdiction, but by the advancing population and consequence of Calcutta, and the slow and silent but not less sure progress of planting, colonizing, and civilization: a remedy must be sought for the increasing inadequacy of the Supreme Court to overtake its business; and the application of that remedy cannot be delayed very many years. That opposition will be made to any such measure by the learned Bar who enjoy in fact a close monopoly among their very limited members, of whom again, a still smaller number successively rise to the head and engross more than the Lion's share of the whole, can scarcely be doubted; for it is not in nature that men should cheerfully give up a good thing which their predecessors have enjoyed undisturbed, and in the hope of obtaining which they have submitted to toil through the unprofitable junior ranks of the profession. It would not be just or reasonable to make this natural feeling a subject of reproach, and nothing can be further from the scope and intention of these animadversions. The class of Individuals in question are far above the praises or compliments of an anonymous

writer, whose province is with things, not with men. While truth compels this declaration of deliberate opinion, that the functions of the Supreme Court ought to be divided, and the number of Barristers increased, to the detriment, no doubt, of those who now enjoy undeniably a species of monopoly—it is with unfeigned pleasure that we render the justice due to that body of men in admitting that they do no more than fairly profit by an order of things, not of their making. No candid observer can doubt that the introduction of this class of highly educated persons into the body of Anglo-Indian society has been of the greatest benefit to the community in matters beyond the mere sphere of their professional occupation: they have mainly contributed to liberalize its general tone, and to qualify that exclusive or corporate spirit and feeling, which must necessarily prevail to an injurious extent in a society of which the elements are so curiously compounded. Being independent (for the most part) of the East India Company or the Government, as members of an establishment, expressly instituted as a counterpoise to their influence, and being generally in the high road to affluence, arising out of their own industry and talents, they have indulged their rare privilege of thinking and speaking, constitutionally and like Englishmen in England, on most subjects, and independently, on all, they have set a useful fashion in this respect to those around them. There are of course among them men of all parties; but the professional habit of examining both sides of a question, and of exercising a freedom of speech allowed to none besides, has kept them generally pretty clear of the taint of servility; while that laxity of political principle, which is but too justly the opprobrium of the Fraternity in England, and has led many honest men to distrust in the lump all professions of "rising men" at the Bar, and to espy the future apostate and persecutor lurking beneath every untried gown and band, has been heretofore happily unknown in India. As a body they deserve well of society among us; and if affluence rewards their labours, it must be acknowledged that few Anglo-Indians work for it harder, or do more substantial good in return for it.

Dec. 16, 1821.

PHILOPATRIS.

Grand and Petit Juries.

To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.

SIR,—In order that it may generally be known to my Countrymen that an application has been made for our enjoying the right of sitting on Grand and Petit Juries, and that such of them as are in Calcutta may have an opportunity of hearing the decision of the Judges of the Supreme Court on the said application, I request you will give an early insertion to the enclosed Correspondence.—I am, Sir, your obedient Servant,

Calcutta, Dec. 31. 1821.

AN EURASIAN.

To George Warde, Esq. Sheriff of Calcutta.

SIR,—We request you will summon us to serve upon the Grand and Petit Juries for the first Sessions of the year 1822. The Charter of the Supreme Court states, that the Grand and Petit Juries are to be formed of the subjects of Great Britain; and we, to all intents and purposes, are such subjects: consequently, we should be summoned together with other British subjects. We are aware that a distinction has improperly been made between European-born British subjects, and British subjects born in India; but the Charter makes no distinction whatever: and it cannot be necessary to inform you, that no authority exists in this country to make distinctions between different descriptions of British subjects, which are not authorized by the Charter, nor by an Act of Parliament.—We are Sir, your obedient Servants,

Calcutta, Dec. 18, 1821.

[With Twenty six Signatures.]

To ———, Esq. and others.

GENTLEMEN,—I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter under date the 18th instant, to the address of the Sheriff of Calcutta; and have, in compliance with your request therein contained, laid the matter of your competency to serve on the Grand and Petit Juries before the Honorable the Chief Justice, by whom I am directed to submit your letter to the consideration of the three Judges on the first day of the ensuing Sessions, namely, the 7th of January.—I am, Gentlemen, your obedt. humble Servant,

Dec. 21, 1821.

C. C. STRETTELL. Deputy Sheriff.

Indo-Britons or East Indians.

To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.

SIR,

I did not read the judicious and liberal observations, contained in your JOURNAL of the 21th instant, connected with the Examination which took place at the Durrumtollah Academy, previous to the Christmas Vacation, without considerable interest and gratification. The day of prejudice is fast drawing to a close; and sober ideas, and verity, are gaining the ascendant over the minds of men. Every person of deep reading and research, scorns the ill-natured observations of the ignorant, who from poverty of intellect in themselves, deny that potency of mind exists in India to the degree it does in the milder regions of Europe. Mind is the same in every clime: it is the cultivation of it alone, that brings into action its inherent energies; and displays all its capabilities, its richness, and its strength. That profound scholar and historian, Dr. ROBERTSON, remarks in the Appendix to his Disquisition concerning ANCIENT INDIA, that, "by every person who has visited India in ancient or modern times, its inhabitants, either in transactions of private business, or in the conduct of political affairs, have been deemed not inferior to the people of any nation in sagacity or in acuteness of understanding. From the application of such talents to the cultivation of science, an extraordinary degree of proficiency might have been expected. The Indians were, accordingly, early celebrated on that account, and some of the most eminent of the Greek philosophers travelled into India, that, by conversing with the sages of that country, they might acquire some portion of the knowledge for which they were distinguished."

I was not present at the Examination of Mr. DRUMMOND'S pupils; but from the notice of it in your Paper, which now lies before me, it does not appear, that Hurry Doss Bose was any ways deficient in his acquirements to any of his other School-mates, of whatever cast or complexion. The mind of this Hindoo youth, is as susceptible of culture, as was the mind of any of his progenitors, many centuries back: and why should it not be so, when no physical change has since taken place in the country of their birth, if heat and cold be the criteria of decision? Some of the Romish clergy whom I have had an opportunity of seeing, I mean those who have been educated at Goa, and in whom there is no admixture of European blood, have been men of superior information and acquirements, compared to many who come out from Europe of that persuasion: and I do not think would yield much in pretensions to our Protestant Divines. Why, then, should the mind of the Indo-Briton, be supposed inferior to that of any of the aborigines of India, or less vigorous, or less capable of instruction, than that of a European? It is the height of absurdity to attribute virtue or vice, knowledge or ignorance to a man, for the colour of his skin, or the figure of his body. The mind, says a British Poet.

"The mind's the standard of the man."

In addressing you this letter, my intension is to urge and encourage my countrymen to form a LITERARY ASSOCIATION: and I hope the year 1822 will not pass over our heads, without the establishment of a Society for the cultivation of the Arts and Sciences. By way of further inducement to engage in so truly rational a plan, which will enable them to duly estimate their own qualifications and intellectual powers, to entertain a sober respect for themselves, to adopt a firmness of conduct, and the independence of men, and thereby, to command and meet the respect and consideration of all around them, whether Asiatics or Europeans, I shall make a few extracts from the speeches of the President of the DELPHIAN SOCIETY: the Rules and Regulations of which, you have already so kindly inserted in the columns of your JOURNAL. The following are extracts from the speech delivered at the first meeting of the Society:—

"Allow me, Gentlemen, to congratulate with you on an event, which must afford inexpressible pleasure to every liberal and thinking individual; especially, when we reflect on the benefits

and advantages to be derived from an Association for so laudable a purpose as the cultivation of the mind.

"It is a source of additional pleasure to me, in which, no doubt, you equally participate, when I think that we shall by our example, raise a pride in others to offer their assistance in obviating those prejudices which, at present, exist against us; particularly, when we advert to the low estimation in which we are held by that class of people, on whose favourable opinion, our respectability and advancement seem to depend.

"Recollect, Gentlemen, that our existence and influence, as a collective body, are but in embryo just now; and we ought, with impatience, to look forward for that period to arrive, when our energetic powers will be required in a much more eminent degree, than we are at present accustomed to think; in order, to the enjoyment of those privileges and distinctions, which, in a great measure, by our own apathy and supineness, we have hitherto forfeited and still neglect to enjoy."

These, which now follow, are extracts from another speech; and are more apropos to the subject noticed in the first part of this letter. The President, after noticing the rise, progress, and decline, of two preceding ASSOCIATIONS, and taking occasion from thence to give monitory counsel to the DELPHIAN SOCIETY, and to urge suitable arguments to lead them on to exertion and emulation; closed his speech with the following encouraging remarks:—

"The powers and faculties of the mind, are inherently the same in every nation, and in every clime. Have we not examples of this in every people, of any tolerable degree of civilization, that we read of? Do not the writings of Greece and Rome, which are extant to this day, and in Asia, the Books of the Persians, Arabians, and Hindoos, prove this? Did not the Arts and Sciences, did not Grammar, Rhetoric, and Logic; Mathematics, Ethics, Astronomy, Physics and Metaphysics, have their origin in Asia? or rather amongst the sages that once inhabited the delightful regions of Hindoostan? Was not India the scientific orb, that cast her radiance all around, and illumined, by her cheering rays, the Chaldeans and Egyptians in the west; from whence the Greeks, and thence the Romans, and now the modern Europeans have derived their light? and in the East, the Lamas of Tibet and Tartary; and thence the vast and extensive empire of China was enlightened?

"We have never given the mind a sufficient scope; we have never yet perfectly estimated its powers or considered the extent of its greatness; we have not yet tried it by experience. Our minds are not weaker, than were the minds of those profound Sages of India, who were the Fathers of the Arts and Sciences; and who lived so many thousand years before us. There has been no change since in the order of Nature; the climate and the local position of India is the same: whence then is the delusion,—or what physical cause can operate upon us, to weaken the powers of the mind, and make it less energetic?

"The mind is now, what it was before; but a proper culture is necessary: this is within our power to bestow. We have all the advantages of the sedate and contemplative mind of a European, united to the fertile genius and lively imagination of the aborigines of India. Why should we not, then, hope to see, in time, amongst our countrymen, an Addison or a Steele, a Milton or a Johnson, a Priestly or a Newton? The poet has very feelingly lamented that,

Full many a gem of purest ray serene,
The dark unfathom'd caves of ocean bear;
Full many a flow'r is born to blush unseen,
And waste its sweetness in the desert air."

Thus far the President of the *Delphian Society*. Your predictions, as to the future condition of Indo-Britons, I am sanguine enough to think, will be accomplished. They will, in defiance of grinning ridicule and folly's spite, continue to grow, gain strength, and cover these regions with a new nation.

December 27, 1821.

ASIATICUS.

Anacreon.

ON TO A GRASSHOPPER.—*εἰς τέρνυα*.—ODE XLIII.

Blest Cicada! hail to thee,
That, on bough of topmost tree,
Sipping the light pearly dew,
King-like, dost thy strain renew.
Thine is all that decks the field,
Thine, whate'er the seasons yield;
Dear art thou to rural swains,
Harmless rover of the plains;
Mortals praise on thee confer,
Summer's gentle chorister.
Thou'rt the Muses' fond delight;
E'en Appollo loves thy sight,
And bestows thee thy shrill song:
Age ne'er wastes thee, ever young.
Wise, tho' earth-born, with sweet voice,
Day and night, dost thou rejoice;
Fleshless, bloodless, free from care,
Thou a godlike fate dost bear.

Calcutta.

T. S.

Military Roads and Telegraphs.

To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.

SIR,

Having perused a letter addressed to the Editor of the INDIA GAZETTE, by a TRAVELLER, from the banks of the Soane, dated the 4th of November last, which is published in your Journal of the 22d of November, I think it but a piece of fair play or justice to the Public to let them know the observations of another Traveller concerning the Grand Military Road, which I supposed at first must mean the stupendous undertaking commenced some years ago from Benares to Allahabad, as that is the only thing like a Military Road—*par-excellence*—which I have seen in my travels up the country.

Having lately passed along the road from the Soane to Benares, on my way to the Upper Provinces; I observed that it was a tolerably good road, made chiefly by Nature, and in pretty good repair, as the public roads generally are in every district where there is an active magistrate;—and that, in those parts of it which communicated between the Telegraph Stations, but in those only, you might drive a buggy over it at a good trot. This however is no more entitled to be called a Military Road, than all the rest of the roads from Calcutta to Meerut.

The only road which looks like a Military Road in this direction, is that magnificent concern which I have before mentioned, begun some years ago, but upon so grand a scale that it may fairly be pronounced utterly impossible ever to finish it without at least fifty times the number of hands now employed upon it, and even that addition of hands would not complete the road in less than a dozen years. I passed along it about 2 years ago, and it is now nearly in the same state of progress that it was then.—Every year's rains commits depredations upon what has been made, which requires fresh labour to repair.—As soon as this, and the Telegraph Communications to Benares are perfected, I shall have finished a *projet* which I am now hatching for submission to the Court of Directors—to throw a bridge of cables across from Bombay to the Red Sea, with a view to facilitate overland despatches; and as the *projet* will create at least 300 new Appointments, none of which from the dangers of the work, can be salaried at less than 400 Sa. Rs. a month, there can be very little doubt that due attention will be paid to the scheme.—All the reward I look to as its Author, will be a Service of Plate;—a Vote of Thanks;—and 10 per cent. Commission on the Salaries; which will enable me to go home, buy a seat in Parliament, and turn Patriot for the benefit of the Revenue.

I am, Sir, your's, &c.

A REGULAR PROJECTOR.

Up the Country, }
Dec. 2, 1821. }

Affray at the Catholic Church.

To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.

SIR,

On the Eve of Christmas-day, there are certain established ceremonies in the Catholic Church at midnight, which I am concerned to state, have frequently been interrupted by persons of an opposite faith, who make it a practice of repairing to our Church, in a state of inebriety, and as they have often been heard to express, "for fun" or "to kick up a row;" and the affray of last Monday night was such that it required the interposition of the Wardens of the Church, whose services unfortunately were not available at the moment.

With due respect to these Gentlemen, I must say, that we have had repeated instances of misbehaviour in the Catholic Church, and long ere now should have taken the means of preventing a recurrence of such irregularities. I sincerely hope that the last circumstance will in itself be sufficiently to urge them to act in a more cautious manner in future, by protecting the congregation from the insults of strangers, and I am sure I am not wrong when I say, that they have often been treated with derision and contempt by a set of ill-bred intruders. The facts of the affray in question are as follows:—

A Gentleman in the Church, happening to see a groupe of 8 or 10 persons, apparently attracted by mere curiosity, very politely begged they would give him room to perform his devotions. They refused, however, to give him place, and with one accord sneered at him, making use at the same time, of very opprobrious terms. This certainly could not be borne without some remark; and the Gentleman said, that if they for a moment reflected that they were in the House of God, they would no doubt desist from such unbecoming deportment; but it was in vain. The Gentlemen, however, at last made his way through this groupe, when for a few moments they consulted on the best means of thrashing him, as they termed it, repeating his name to those who were unacquainted with it. This was distinctly heard by at least 50 persons. The Gentleman during the service, finding himself incommoded by the heat, thought fit to retire to a place where he could obtain a little air, not for a moment thinking that the party would notice him further; however, one of them lost no time in doing this; for just as the Gentleman had taken his station, which was on the threshold of one of the Church doors, on account of the crowd, he was accosted in the words, rather in an inaudible tone, a precaution which he did not lose sight of, "You had better come out!"—The gentleman replied "I will, immediately after the service,"—"No," said the former, "I demand it instantly."—"By and bye" replied the other, "I will be happy to give you any satisfaction you require."—"Well, then," said the man, "I will make you do it;" and so saying, he attacked this Gentleman in the Church, upon which a scuffle ensued, to the great disgrace of the offending parties. This lasted only a few minutes, as the combatants were separated, without any further explanation taking place.

I appeal to all impartial persons, if conduct such as this is to be tolerated, more especially in a place of worship; I only hope those who were guilty of the disgraceful behaviour herein described, will reflect on their misdeeds; and that this public exposure will tend to prevent any similar outrage, and be the means of preventing ill-disposed persons from visiting the Catholic Church, for the purpose of disturbing the congregation in the free enjoyment of their religious worship.

I remain, Sir, your obedient Servant,

December 28, 1821.

A CATHOLIC.

PRICE OF BULLION.

Spanish Dollars,	Sicca Rupees 206 0 a 206 12 per 100
Doubloons,	30 0 a 30 4 each
Joes, or Pezas,	17 4 a 17 5 each
Dutch Ducats,	4 4 a 4 12 each
Louis D'Ors,	8 4 a 8 8 each
Silver 5 Franc pieces,	101 4 a 101 8 per 100
Star Pagodas,	3 61 a 3 7 6 each
Sovereigns,	19 0 a 10 8

ASIATIC DEPARTMENT.

—45—

Song from the Old Russian.

HARK! those tones of music stealing
Through yon wood at even:
Sweetest songs that breathe a feeling
Pure and bright as heaven.

Nightingales in chorus near thee,
All their notes are blending;
Then they stop their songs to hear thee,
Silent—unpretending.

Military Bank.—On Tuesday (Jan. 1) was held a Quarterly Meeting of the Directors of the Military Bank, when the accounts for the year 1820 were examined and passed previously to their being laid before the annual meeting of the depositors, to be held in the end of the present month. We understand that the stock subscribed in the present year amounts to nearly a Lac and a half of Rupees, and that the rate of profits has been fully equal to what could have been expected during a period when the interest of money is so unusually low.

Benevolent Institution.—On Friday, December 21st, the Eleventh Annual Examination of the Children under the care of the Benevolent Institution was held by Dr. MARSHMAN, the Secretary, at the School Rooms in the Lall Bazar, in the presence of a highly respectable attendance, assembled in consequence of a previous advertisement. The Boys were examined relative to their proficiency in reading, spelling, writing, and Arithmetic, and the elder class in English Grammar, Geography, and the Bengalee language, when all acquitted themselves greatly to the satisfaction of the Company present. The Girls, to the number of Eighty-four, were then examined in reading, writing, knitting, and various kinds of needle work, in which their proficiency appeared to be such as to spread a glow of delight through the whole company as they contemplated so great a number of young persons in the lowest rank of Christian society, thus rescued from ignorance and vice and enabled to support themselves by the labor of their own hands. A Lady in the higher ranks of life, to whose goodness the Institution has been often indebted, has a few weeks before sent a stock of apparel and of new cloth to the Girls' School, which gave them an opportunity of previously making up the whole for themselves. The Girls all, therefore, through this Lady's prudent benevolence, appeared neatly clad at the Examination, and the joy and pleasure which were visible in their countenances added not a little to the satisfaction of the Company. The Examination being finished, the Children sung together one of Watts's Divine Songs, belonging.

"The praises of my tongue,
"I offer to the Lord,"

and the Reverend Mr. Lawson, offered up an appropriate prayer for the Children, and the benefactors and supporters of the Institution.

It is now twelve years since the formation of this Institution, in which time it has not only increased in Calcutta to four times the size first intended, the number originally contemplated being no more than Fifty Children, and the number of Children present at this Examination exceeding Two Hundred; but branches of it have spread to Serampore, Dacca, and Chittagong, where they embrace nearly all the indigent Christian Children to be found in these towns, as soon as they come to the proper age for instruction. Thus the generous support this Institution has experienced from the public, has, with the Divine blessing, been the means, in these twelve years, of introducing into useful life, without interfering in the least with the parent's right over their children, more than a thousand youths, who might otherwise have been a prey to vice and ignorance, but most of whom are now valuable, though humble, members of society.

We are sorry to learn that this valuable Institution is at present somewhat in arrears.—*Government Gazette.*

Passengers to England.

SIR,

To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.

It is really a pity, that your Correspondent, "A PASSENGER ON THE WAY HOME," who I think must be a very good man, did not give the name of the particular Ship, and also the name of the Captain. In his well-meant caution to the Public, which appeared in your JOURNAL of the 1st instant, he has accused an entire branch of a profession, regardless of the feelings of many humane and worthy men who compose it, and of whom I can venture to say, that there is not one other single individual among them, who would be guilty of so base a fraud, for fraud it is, of the blackest die. I do not censure your Correspondent for having given publicity to such a glaring act of inhumanity, and such a disgraceful breach of confidence; on the contrary, I think he deserves the thanks and gratitude of every Parent and Guardian, and I, as filling both situations, offer him mine; but I am persuaded that before he arrived in England, he felt regret, for having under his feeling of disgust towards the culprit, sent to you a document which, as I said before, throws a stigma on a whole branch of a profession which has been always a useful part of the State.

Calcutta, Jan. 3, 1822.

PHILANTHROPOS.

NOTE OF THE EDITOR.

We cannot refrain from expressing our entire dissent from the conclusions drawn by PHILANTHROPOS, as to a stigma being cast on the whole body of a highly respectable class of men, by the representation of cases in which some of that body may be considered to have departed from the strict line of duty. In the present shape of the *Passenger's* Letter, the guilty only ought to feel ashamed at its perusal; and all the effect it can produce among the community here, is to make them more and more scrupulous in their selection of Ships and Commanders, so that as there are always various shades of merit in every profession, the most upright and liberal will enjoy, as they ought to do, a more decided preference over those who are less so. In reason, justice, and common sense, it would be no doubt better, according to the suggestion of PHILANTHROPOS, that the name of the Ship and Commander should have been stated: but he forgets perhaps that if this were done, and the charge proved to be true in every particular, we might be prosecuted for Libel, and the very truth of the charge would be urged in aggravation of our crime. Such is the Law!—and a year or two ago, when we knew less of this subject than we do at present, we were brought into Court for having published a Letter of a Correspondent, pointing out some abuses in one of the Boat Offices of Calcutta; and although we used what we then deemed a sufficient precaution, by striking out the name of the Boat Office keeper, leaving one Initial only, besides which the documents on which the case rested were copies of regular proceedings in a Provincial Court, and their truth and accuracy was not even attempted to be denied; yet we were condemned to pay a fine, and costs of suit, on the plea that however true the facts were, the publication of them were calculated to injure the said Boat Office keeper in his business!!—If we were of a vindictive turn, and chose to prosecute all the speakers, writers, and publishers, who for the last three years have sought every occasion of endeavouring to injure the reputation of this JOURNAL, and to libel the character of its Editor in every possible manner, we should have a fine field before us for indulging in vengeance; for tho' it would be difficult to prove that we had sustained actual injury, or to establish a claim to damages, yet the intent and tendency of their efforts, must, according to the legal principle, involve them in the costs, and their plea of truth in justification would in such a case only aggravate their crime. But we are sufficiently satisfied with the much prouder triumph of outliving and rising above all their endeavours to put us down; and, as we think all men should do who feel strong in their own integrity, we have hitherto, and shall still continue to let such of those endeavours as are worthy of notice, meet their sure defeat by reason and argument, and when they are not deserving of serious attention, let them pass by unregarded.—It is thus that we would fulfil the injunction,—"Do ye unto others, as you would they should do unto you;" but there are evidently many who profess at least great reverence for the Gospel, yet who neither observe this maxim, nor the one that enjoins forgiveness "until seventy times seven," or that which commands the "return of good for evil, and love for enmity." They evidently prefer that Law, which the Preacher of this Gospel came to destroy: and they cherish the Jewish maxim "thou shalt love thy neighbour and hate thine enemy" with a degree of zeal and devotion, worthy the Pharisees of old, from which they are not so far removed in pretension and real character, as they would imagine: the leading trait, of deeming themselves more perfect than other men, and persecuting with rigour all those who differ from them in opinion and practice, being as prominently seen among the Scribes and Elders of our day, as among their sainted prototypes of old.—Ed.

Government Orders.**MILITARY.**

General Orders, by His Excellency the Most Noble the Governor General in Council.

FORT WILLIAM, NOVEMBER 17, 1821.

In publishing to the Army the following Paragraphs of a General Letter from the Honorable the Court of Directors, the Most Noble the Governor General in Council directs it to be notified, that Ensign C. A. C. Hodges, stands dismissed from the Service of the Honorable Company, in obedience to the Commands therein conveyed.

Extract of a General Letter from the Court of Directors, in the Military Department, under date the 30th May, 1821.

Para. 3. From the Documents to which reference is made, the conduct of Ensign Charles Hodges appears to have been of the most wanton and unprovoked description, and this does not appear to have been the first offence of a similar character of which that Officer had been guilty.

4. Within a view to mark our sense of such Atrocities;—with a view to the protection of the people committed to our care;—as well as with a view to the protection of the honor, happiness, and safety of our Officers themselves, we direct that Ensign C. Hodges be dismissed from our Service and sent to England, immediately on the expiration of his Imprisonment.

FORT WILLIAM, DECEMBER 18, 1821.

The Most Noble the Governor General in Council, is pleased to make the following Appointments in the Department of the Adjutant General of the Army.

Captain Patrickson, 1st Assistant and Acting Deputy Adjutant General, to be Deputy Adjutant General, with the Official Rank of Major, from the 1st of August last, in the room of Major C. Stuart, who has proceeded to Europe on Furlough.

Captain Jonathan Scott, of the 10th Regiment Native Infantry, to be 1st Assistant Adjutant General of the Army, vice Patrickson, promoted in the Department.

The Governor General in Council is pleased, at the recommendation of His Excellency the Commander in Chief, to direct, that a New Commission be issued to Lieutenant Alexander Grant, of the 26th Regiment Native Infantry, bearing date the 2d of August 1818, in lieu of that cancelled by the Sentence of a General Court Martial.

FORT WILLIAM, DECEMBER 20, 1821.

The Governor General in Council is pleased to appoint Major General R. B. Gregory, C. B. of the Honorable Company's Service on this Establishment, temporarily to the Staff of this Presidency from the 23rd ultimo, consequent on the Demise of Major General Hardyman.

Lieutenant Colonel James Nicol, Adjutant General of the Army, is permitted to proceed to Prince of Wales's Island, for the benefit of his health, and to be absent on that account from Bengal for Six Months.

The Governor General in Council is pleased to make the following Promotions and Appointments:—

Regiment of Artillery.—First Lieutenant Thomas Croxton, to be Captain of a Company, from the 10th December 1821, in succession to Curtis, deceased.

Second Lieutenant Charles McMorine to be First Lieut. ditto ditto. 27th Regiment Native Infantry.—Senior Ensign Henry Roche Osborn, to be Lieutenant, from 15th Dec. 1821, vice Donnelly, deceased.

Captain Thomas F. Hutchinson, of the 5th Regiment Native Infantry, Fort Adjutant of Dehly, to the command of the Dehly Nujeeb Battalion, vice Donnelly, deceased.

Lieutenant William Turner of the 27th Regiment Infantry, to be Fort Adjutant of Dehly, vice Hutchinson.

The following Appointment made by the Governor General, is notified in General Orders:—

Assistant Surgeon William W. Hewett, M. D. to perform the Medical duties of Assistant Garrison Surgeon, during the absence of Assistant Surgeon A. Jackson, or until further orders.

The undermentioned Officers have been permitted to proceed to Europe on Furlough:—

Lieutenant Colonel H. Dare of the 25th Regiment Native Infantry, on account of private affairs.

Captain H. T. Roberts of the 3th Regiment Light Cavalry, Commanding the Rohillah Cavalry, ditto ditto.

Brevet Captain and Lieutenant H. Dalburgh, 2d Regiment Light Cavalry, ditto ditto.

Lieutenant John Pyne, 16th Regiment Native Infantry, ditto, ditto.

Brevet Captain and Lieutenant P. Thomas of the 16th Regiment Native Infantry, on account of the recovery of his health.

The leave of absence granted in General Orders of the 1st September last, to Ensign John Taylor, of the 19th Regiment Native Infantry, to visit Madras on urgent private affairs, is extended for a period of Four Months, under the operation of existing regulations in regard to Pay and Allowances.

The leave of absence granted in General Orders of the 29th October last to Lieutenant R. W. Forster, Interpreter and Quarter-Master, 2d Battalion 13th Regiment Native Infantry, to proceed to New South Wales, for the benefit of his health, is cancelled at the request of that Officer.

Surgeon Thomas Rutherford, Superintendent of the Honorable Company's Commercial Concerns at Cossipore, has obtained from Government, in the Commercial Department, under date the 14th instant, an extension of his leave of absence for Two Months from the 1st of the present Month, preparatory to applying for Furlough to Europe.

W. CASEMENT, Lt.-Col. Sec. to Govt. Mil. Dept.

General Orders, by the Commander in Chief, Head-quarters, Calcutta; December 24, 1821.

The undermentioned Officer has Leave of Absence.

1st Battalion 30th Regiment.—Brevet Captain H. Wilson from 7th December, to 7th April 1822, to enable him to join his Corps.

JAS. NICOL, Adj. Genl. of the Army.

Head-Quarters, Calcutta; December 25, 1821.

The leave of absence granted to Lieutenant and Brevet Captain S. Moody, of the 1st Battalion 4th Regiment Native Infantry, in General Orders of the 19th September, is to commence from the 10th October last instead of the date previously assigned.

Lieutenant Andrew Syme, of the 29th Regiment Native Infantry, is appointed to command a Company of the Hill Bildars in the room of Lieutenant Templer, 4th Regiment Native Infantry, whose appointment, as stated in General Orders of the 17th October, is cancelled. Lieutenant Syme will accordingly place himself under the orders of the Quarter Master General of the Army without delay.

Brevet Captain Thomas Hepworth is appointed Interpreter and Quarter Master of the 1st Battalion 4th Regiment Native Infantry, vice Oakes, who has resigned the situation.

The leave of absence granted in General Orders of the 23d ultimo to Lieutenant Colonel G. Richards, 1st Battalion 13th Regiment Native Infantry, is cancelled at that Officer's request.

The undermentioned Officers have leave of absence:—

Invalids.—Captain Tanner, from 15th December to 15th February 1822, in extension, with permission to visit the Presidency.

2d Battalion 27th Regiment.—Lieutenant Interpreter and Quarter Master Hoggan, from 15th January 1822, to 1st March, in extension, to remain at the Presidency, on urgent private affairs.

2d Battalion 30th Regiment.—Captain McKie, from 10th February 1822, to 10th April, in extension, to enable him to rejoin his Corps.

1st Battalion 5th Regiment.—Lieutenant Sewell from 1st January 1822, to 1st May, in extension, to enable him to rejoin his Corps.

2d Battalion 10th Regiment.—Ensign Campbell, from 2d December, to 15th January 1822, to visit the Presidency, on private affairs.

W. G. PATRICKSON, Dy. Adj. Genl. of the Army.

Head-Quarters, Calcutta; December 27, 1821.

In conformity with Government General Orders of the 18th instant, Lieutenant Alexander Grant will rank in the 26th Regiment Native Infantry below Lieutenant Henry Brown, and above Lieutenant William Vigogne, and in the Army immediately below Lieutenant John Ralph Ouseley of the 30th Regiment Native Infantry.

Detachment Orders by Major Thomson, Commanding Malwah Field Force, under date the 7th instant, appointing Lieutenant and Brevet-Captain Pasmore, of the 1st Battalion 3d Regiment Native Infantry, to officiate as Major of Brigade to the Troops at Mhow, are confirmed as a temporary arrangement.

Battalion Orders by Captain Williamson, Commanding 1st Battalion 3d Regiment Native Infantry, under date the 7th instant, appointing Lieutenant, Interpreter and Quarter Master Dingwall to act as Adjutant to the Battalion, in the room of Brevet-Captain and Adjutant Pasmore, appointed to officiate as Major of Brigade at Mhow, are confirmed.

Lieutenant H. V. Cary, of the 1st Battalion 29th Regiment, is directed to repair to Midnapore, and join the 1st Battalion 13th Regiment Native Infantry, with which Battalion he will do duty until the arrival at that Station of the former Corps in progress to Benares.

Ensign A. T. Lloyd, 11th Regiment Native Infantry, is to his own request removed to the 4th Regiment Native Infantry, as junior Officer of his rank.

Ensign Lloyd is posted to the 1st Bat. 4th Regt. Native Infantry.

The undermentioned Officers have leave of Absence:—

1st Battalion 9th Regiment.—Lieutenant and Brevet Captain Guise, from 15th March 1822, to 15th September, to visit the Presidency, on urgent private affairs.

1st Battalion 11th Regiment.—Captain Mackenzie, from 10th January 1822, to 10th July, in extension, with permission to visit the Presidency.

Head-Quarters, Calcutta; December 28, 1821.

The Native General Court Martial directed to assemble at Singapore by General Orders of the 29th June last, is dissolved.

Captain T. Murray is removed from the 2d to the 1st Battalion 20th Regiment Native Infantry, and Captain Vincent from the latter to the former Corps.

The undermentioned Officers have Leave of Absence:—

2d Battalion 5th Regiment.—Lieutenant Interpreter and Quarter Master Grant, from 10th January 1822, to 10th May, in extension, on urgent private affairs, to visit the Presidency.

5th Regiment Light Cavalry.—Riding Master James Green, from 5th January 1822, to 5th June, to visit Buxar, on urgent private affairs.

2d Battalion 31 Regiment.—Captain Nesbitt, from 5th January 1822, to 5th March, in extension, to rejoin his Corps.

On the arrival of Captain Nesbitt, 2d Battalion 3d Regiment Native Infantry, at Cawnpore, that officer will repair to Lucknow and join and do duty with the 2d Battalion 9th Regiment Native Infantry until further orders.

Head-Quarters, Calcutta; December 29, 1821.

Major Watson, Deputy Adjutant General in the Field, is directed to proceed by water on duty to the Presidency with all convenient expedition.

The Brigade Major at Cawnpore will, until further orders, conduct the duties of the Deputy Adjutant General's Office in the Field.

Lieutenant Richard Wilcox of the 2d Battalion 30th Regiment Native Infantry, who, in General Orders of the 13th September 1821, obtained an extension of the leave of absence granted to him by General Orders of the 12th September 1820, for the purpose of studying in the College of Fort William, having, by his proficiency in the Oriental Languages, obtained the recommendation of the College Council for the indulgence of another term in College, the Commander in Chief is pleased further to extend the leave of absence granted to Lieutenant Wilcox to the 30th June next.

A Committee of Officers is to assemble on the 10th February next at Ghazepore for the purpose of admitting into the Service such Horses as they shall deem fit for it, from the Cattle which will be submitted to the inspection of the Committee by the Superintendent of the Honorable Company's Stud, or his Assistant.

The Committee is to be composed as follows:

President.—Lieut.-Colonel Clarke, 1st Regiment Light Cavalry.

Members.—Major Deere, His Majesty's 8th Dragoons. Major Dickson, 6th Light Cavalry, (now at the Presidency.) Captain Milne, 11th Dragoons, (ditto.) Captain Lumsden, Horse Brigade, Arty. (ditto.)

Instructions will be hereafter issued for the guidance of the Committee in the performance of the duty assigned to it.

The President and Members of the Committee will draw Boat Allowance as authorized by Government General Orders dated 14th April last.

Lieutenant John Barclay is appointed Adjutant to the 4th Regiment Light Cavalry, vice Clerk, killed in action: the arrangement notified in General Orders of the 20th October last, directing Lieutenant and Interpreter and Quarter Master MacTier to act as Adjutant, is to continue in force until Lieutenant and Adjutant Barclay shall assume charge of his appointment.

Division Orders of the 8th instant by Major W. P. Price, Commanding Neematch Field Force, appointing Captain P. Jeremie, 2d Battalion 2d Regiment Native Infantry, to the charge of the Rampoorah Local Battalion during the absence on sick leave of Captain Hamilton, is confirmed.

Lieutenant Britten is removed from the 2d to the 1st Battalion 20th Regiment Native Infantry, and Lieutenant Burney from the latter to the former Corps.

The undermentioned Officers have leave of absence:

1st Battalion 28th Regiment.—Brevet Captain J. Davies, from 28th December, to 28th May 1822, to enable him to rejoin his Corps.

11th Regiment Native Infantry.—Surgeon Hough, from 1st January, to 1st March 1822, in extension, on urgent private affairs.

Head-Quarters, Calcutta; December 31, 1821.

Lieutenant J. Kerr is removed from the 1st to the 2d Battalion of the 7th Regiment Native Infantry, and Lieutenant H. R. Osborne (new promotion) is posted to the former Battalion.

Major General Gregory, whose temporary appointment to the General Staff of the Army of this Presidency is notified in Government Orders of the 29th instant, is posted to the 2d Division of the Field

Army, and directed to repair to the Head-Quarters at Meerut and assume the Command.

Allahabad Garrison Orders by Major General Marley, under date the 30th instant, directing Ensign Foley of the 2d Battalion 27th Regiment Native Infantry to join and do duty with the Left Wing of the 1st Battalion 18th Regiment, until the arrival at the Station of his proper Corps, are confirmed.

The appointment in Regimental Orders by Major Johnstone, Commanding 2d Regiment Light Cavalry, under date 29th October, of Cornet Pousonby to act as Adjutant in the room of Lieutenant Fraser permitted to resign, is confirmed as a temporary arrangement.

The appointment in Regimental Orders of the 6th November last, of Cornet Wheler to act as Adjutant to the 2d Regiment Light Cavalry, is confirmed.

The undermentioned Officer has Leave of Absence:—

Gardner's Horse.—Local Lieutenant and Adjutant Smith, from 31st December to 15th April 1822, in extension, to join his Corps.

JAS. NICOL, Adj. Genl. of the Army.

Head-quarters, Calcutta; December 1, 1821.

The undermentioned Officers have received the Most Noble the Commander in Chief's leave of absence, for the reasons assigned:—

Royal Scots.—Lieutenant Sutter, from 24th instant, for 2 months, in extension.

69th Foot, Lieutenant Finn, from the date of embarkation, for 2 years, to proceed to Europe, for the recovery of his health.

The leave granted by the General Officer Commanding the Forces at Bombay, to Ensign Murphy, of H. M. 47th Foot, to proceed to Europe for the recovery of his health, and to be absent on that account for 2 years, from the date of his embarkation, is confirmed.

Head-quarters, Calcutta; December 22, 1821.

The undermentioned Officers have received the Most Noble the Commander in Chief's leave of absence, for the reasons assigned:—

11th Dragoons.—Lieutenant Brisco, from 1st proximo, for 4 months, to visit the Presidency on sick Certificate.

14th Foot.—Brevet Major Watson, from 1st September 1821, for 1 month, in extension.

59th Foot.—Lieutenant Lukis, from 1st February 1822, for one month, to enable him to rejoin his Regiment.

59th Foot.—Ensign Murray, from 1st February 1822, for one month, to enable him to rejoin his Regiment.

Brevet Major Watson of H. M. 14th Foot, has permission to repair to the Presidency on Sick Certificate, and to be absent on that account for 3 Months from the 1st instant, on or before the expiration of which, should the state of his health require it and be certified accordingly by the Medical Board, he is to make application for leave to proceed to Europe.

Head-quarters, Calcutta; December 27, 1821.

Lieutenant Harris of H. M. 24th Foot is directed to hold himself in readiness to proceed to England in charge of a portion of the Invalids and Service expired men stated in General Orders, No. 2458, of the 17th ultimo, with which he will do duty in Fort William under the Orders of Major Bristow.

Head-quarters, Calcutta; December 28, 1821.

With the Sanction of Government the undermentioned details of Invalids and time expired Soldiers of His Majesty's Service, are to be held in readiness to embark for England agreeably to the following proportions, under charge of the Officers specified on board the Ships which have been allotted by Government for their conveyance.

H. C. Ship MARQUIS OF WELLINGTON, Captain Husband, 87th Regiment. 30 Service expired Soldiers.

Ditto THOMAS GRENVILLE, Lieutenant Stuart, 24th Regiment, 30 Service expired Men and Invalids inclusive.

Private Ship ORIENT, Lieutenant Baylee, 87th Regiment, 33 Invalids and 3 Service expired Men, 2 Women and 4 Children.

Ditto FAIRLIE, Lieutenant Harris, 24th Regiment, 36 Invalids and Service expired Men, 2 Women and 4 Children.

Major Bristow, Brigade Major to the King's Troops, upon the embarkation of these Detachments, will deliver over all documents referable to the Men, to the Officers proceeding in charge respectively.

Major General Thomas, C.B. Commanding the Presidency Division, will be pleased to issue the necessary instructions for carrying the foregoing Orders into effect at the proper time according to the usual custom in such cases.

Head-quarters, Calcutta; December 29, 1821.

The undermentioned Officers have received the Most Noble the Commander in Chief's Leave of Absence for the reasons assigned:—

Royal Scots.—Lieutenant Bruce, from 19th March 1822, for 2 Months, in extension to enable him to rejoin his Regiment.

17th Foot.—Lieutenant Peavor, from date of embarkation, for 2 Years, to proceed to Europe, for the recovery of his health.

24th ditto,—Captain Lane, from 1st February 1822, for 6 Months, to visit Madras on his private affairs.

Lieutenant Molkern of His Majesty's 11th Dragoons, has leave of absence, for 5 Months from the 6th proximo, to enable him to join his corps at Meerut.

Lieutenant Bainbridge of His Majesty's 24th Foot, has leave of absence for 6 Months from the 23d instant on his private affairs.

With the Sanction of Government the Men for H. M. 24th Foot, recently arrived from New South Wales and now in Fort William, are to be held in readiness to join that corps, for which the necessary instructions will be communicated.

With the sanction of Government, the Invalids and time expired Soldiers of H. M. 17th Regiment of Foot, as per detail stated in the Margin,* allotted to proceed to Europe on the Private Ship ORIENT, under the Command of Lieutenant Baylee of the 87th Regiment, are to be embarked on the Morning of the 31st instant at the Cooly Bazar.

By Order of the Most Noble the Commander in Chief,

THOS. McMAHON, Col. A. G.

* Invalids 33, Time expired Men 3—36—Women 4, Children 2,—42.

Sale of Opium.

According to our statement, given on Tuesday, respecting the Opium Sale which took place on the preceding day at the Exchange Rooms, our readers have already seen that the quantity of the Drug then brought to the hammer realized upwards of 53 lacs of rupees. When to this is added the aggregate value of the quantity delivered over to the Agents of the French Government, at the average prices of the sale, the whole sum realised upon the Opium of this first sale of the season amounts to 65 lacs of rupees, a sum exceeding that produced by the Opium of the sale, which immediately preceded it, by eleven or twelve lacs of rupees, although the quantity of the drug sold in the present instance was less than before. That the Company has profited amply by the eager competition of the buyers, is very evident; but we can scarcely imagine, under what circumstances the latter can feel justified to themselves in paying such an extraordinary price for the article. In the case of those, certainly, who purchased merely to answer distant orders, imperative as to the quantity to be procured without containing any restrictions as to price, the determination to obtain the article at any rate may be accounted for; but we are entirely at a loss for the reasons which could induce a number of speculators to give a price with the greatest readiness, which exceeds so materially the highest price that Opium has lately fetched in China. We cannot indeed pretend to any intimate knowledge of the circumstances which have the most material influence on the Opium market in China and to the Eastward, but we should apprehend that in the present case the chances are against the speculator. The principal merchants of the Presidency, we understand, did not purchase to any extent, and only a few of them were numbered among the purchasers at all; so that the greater quantity of the Opium sold has fallen into the hands of Native speculators. Some individuals, who seem to have judged pretty correctly of the extent to which the prices would rise as the sale advanced, took care to secure some of the first lots before the price had got beyond 3,600 rupees, and sold them afterwards readily at a very advanced rate before the sale was concluded. We observed an Armenian gentleman who in this manner cleared 25,000 rupees, upon six lots! Various other sums of considerable magnitude were gained with equal facility; shewing that there were a few individuals interested in the proceedings, besides the Company, who could turn them to certain profit without allowing themselves to be subjected to risk beyond a very brief space of time.—John Bull.

Shipping Arrivals.

CALCUTTA.

Date	Names of Vessels	Flags	Commanders	From Whence	Left
Jan. 3	St. Antonio	British	R. W. Heming	N. S. Wales	May 30

Shipping Departures.

CALCUTTA.

Date	Names of Vessels	Flags	Commanders	Destination
Jan. 2	Liverpool	British	J. Green	Penang
2	Derreah Beggy	Arab	Abdubroman	Judah
2	Taje	Arab	Ally Almas	Judah
2	Fattle Currim	Arab	Nacoda	Judah

Passengers per ST. ANTONIO, from New South Wales and Penang to Calcutta.—Mrs. Heming and Child.

Sporting Intelligence.

CALCUTTA MEETING, THURSDAY, JANUARY 3, 1822.

A Plate of 50 Gold Mohurs for Country Bred Horses that never won Plate or Sweepstakes.—Two years a feather.—Three, 7st. 4lb.—Four, 8st. 4lb.—Five, 8st. 13lb.—Six, 9st. 3lb. and aged, 9st 5lb.—Mares, &c. allowed 3lb. Heats, R. C.—Entrance 5 Gold Mohurs.

Heats.

1. Mr. Walter's ch. f. *Romp*, by *Delusion*, (J. Rowland,) 3 years 1
2. Mr. Oakeley's b. m. *Gnat*, by *Yg. Gohanna*, 5 years 3
3. Mr. Robert's b. c. *Petworth*, by *Yg. Gohanna*, 4 years 4
4. Captain Hunter's b. h. *Rejected Orphan*, by *Barbarian*, 5 years 2

Match for 100 Gold Mohurs,—h. ft.—G. M. st. lb.

1. Mr. Oakeley's b. f. *Fair Salepian*, (J. Fox,) 3 years 8 7
2. Black's ch. c. *Whalebone*, 3 years 8 2

Match for 100 Gold Mohurs.—H. M.

1. Mr. Black's b. c. m. *Kid*, (T. Hunter,) 9 0
2. Captain Mountjoy's w. C. h. ———— 8 0

7 to 1 on *Kid*—Time 56"

Match for 25 Gold Mohurs.—R. C.

1. Mr. Crosby's gr. A. h. *Jack*, (R. Jones,) 8 12
2. Mr. Jull's b. A. g. *Sweet William*, 8 7

Romp, the winner of the Plate this morning, also *Eavesdropper* and *Kingfisher*, who were 1st and 2d, both in the Riddlesworth and the Derby, were bred by Terence O'Keefe, Esq. at Meerut.

Some good sport is expected to-morrow, particularly in the following Races:—

The Oaks for Country-bred Fillies.—C. D. 5 Subscribers.

Restoration and Caractacus 8st. 7lb. each.—T. M.

Snake, 8st. 7lb.—Sophia, 7st.—Twice round.

Military Arrivals and Departures.

Weekly List of Military Arrivals at, and Departures from, the Presidency.

Arrivals.—Lieutenant Colonel J. Dewar, 1st Battalion 8th Native Infantry, from Allahabad.—Major S. Fraser, Commandant Cuttack Legion, from Cuttack.—Captain T. Croxton, Artillery Regiment, from Kurnaul.—Captain W. Cunningham, Deputy Pay Master, from Muntra.—Captain G. Arnold, Barrack Master, from Kurnaul.—Lieutenant H. Carter, Barrack Master, from Upper Provinces.—Lieutenant Sir Robert Colquhoun, Bart. Commandant of Kemaon, Provincial Battalion, from Almorah.—Lieutenant H. Raffe, Artillery Regiment, from Singapore.—Assistant Surgeon C. Dempster, from Lohargong.

Departures.—Lieutenant Colonel J. D. Sherwood, Horse Artillery, to Europe.—Lieutenant Colonel J. Nathall, 5th Light Cavalry, to ditto.—Major P. Dunbar, 3d ditto, to ditto.—Major J. Tembs, 1st Light Cavalry, to Sultanpore, Benares.—Captain R. M. O. Gramshaw, Artillery Regiment, to ditto.—Captain St. John Heard, 2d Battalion, 8th Native Infantry, to Europe.—Captain W. McKie, 2d Battalion, 30th Native Infantry, to Sangor.—Lieutenant W. H. Terranean, Barrack Master, to Dacca.—Lieutenant R. Thrope, 1st Battalion, 10th Native Infantry, to Madras.—Lieutenant J. Gouldhawke, 2d Battalion, 30th Native Infantry, to Sangor.—Lieutenant T. Sewell, 1st Battalion, 5th Native Infantry, to Agra.—Ensign C. Bracken, 1st Battalion, 19th Native Infantry, to Benares.—Ensign G. A. Currie, 2d Battalion, 26th Native Infantry, to Europe.

N. B.—In last week's list, the Hon'ble Mr. Sempill's name is erroneously printed *Semple*.

Erratum.

In the JOURNAL of yesterday, page 33, line 23, from the top, FOR "danger" READ "clangor."

Marriage.

On the 2d instant, at St. John's Cathedral, by the Reverend D. CORRIE, Mr. DAVID STAIG, to Miss MARGARET HANNAH.

Birth.

On the 1st instant, Mrs. P. MORAN, of a Son.